



# BEAR REPORT

A NEWSPAPER DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE CHICAGO BEARS AND THE NFL.

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A newspaper devoted exclusively  
to the Chicago Bears and the NFL  
Vol. 11, No. 12 October 20, 1986

## On the cover...

Cornerback Reggie Phillips has given opposing receivers a lot of problems getting open this year. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)



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### PUBLISHER

Doug Buffone

### GENERAL MANAGER

John Weishar

### MANAGING EDITOR

Michael Polzin

### ADVERTISING SALES

Cathy Hanson

112 Market Street

Sun Prairie, WI 53590

(608) 837-5161

Chicago Bear Report Advertising Agency

500 N. Michigan Ave. Suite 2000

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312/787-6955

Frederick Woods, President

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## Commentary



By  
Doug  
Buffone



## Bear bait gets number six playing as a team

Another Sunday, another fish. That's what the Bears got after another team performance gave them their win over Houston.

The team concept is still there with the Bears. It's not just one guy who is carrying the load each week for Chicago. Rather, it's a case of many individuals doing excellent jobs that add up to a team win.

Take a look at all the great individual performances the Bears got on Sunday. Dave Duerson again was nearly unstoppable on the blitzes. The Bears reached quarterback Warren Moon five times in the game, a tribute to another fine performance by the entire defensive line.

Next is Walter Payton. Here's a guy who now has gained over 20,000 total yards in his career. What more needs to be said?

But Payton wasn't the only running back who did the job against Houston. Dennis Gentry broke a nice run for a touchdown, and Neal Anderson had a great run that, unfortunately, was called back on a penalty. People will remember Jay Hilgenberg's penalty on that play. But they forget the other key blocks he made in the game.

For the one play that he was in the game, Steve Fuller gave a great effort on the reverse Willie Gault ran for 29 yards. His block was a big one on the play.

As for Jim McMahon, you can talk about his overthrown passes and the dropped balls, but you have to remember he was playing with a bad shoulder. He's playing with courage. I have to take my hat off to him. His play was like a pianist performing with a broken finger. I'd like to see how many other quarterbacks could play with a shoulder like McMahon's.

The Bears' linebacking trio is simply the best in the league and did an excellent job handling Mike Rozier and Moon, the best quarterback Chicago has faced this year.

And as far as the Bears winning ugly is concerned, I'd like to ship the guy who invented that phrase to Siberia. I don't buy that garbage about winning ugly. There's nothing wrong with how the Bears got to be 6-0. Chicago doesn't need to apologize for not winning every game by 30 points.

The Bears are still tuning up and are getting better as they go. They'll be ready for anything by the end of the year.

*The "Doug Buffone-Rich King Show" can be seen each week at 7 p.m. on Sportsvision.*



Dave Duerson didn't let Houston quarterback Warren Moon escape from his grasp on this play during Chicago's 20-7 win over the Oilers. (Bear Report photo by Lou Witt)



# Bears don't look like champions in win

By Michael Polzin  
Managing Editor

HOUSTON — This was not the stuff from which championships are built from. But the game goes into the win column, so the Bears can take some consolation in their 20-7 win over the Houston Oilers here Sunday.

In some ways it was a typical game for the Bears this year. They toyed with their opponent for at least half the game before showing their dominance with a strong enough second-half showing to win the game. But during the other half of the time, this was not a typical Bears performance. Chicago didn't execute well during most of the game, and coach Mike Ditka wasn't happy about it.

"We didn't play well. That's it. Period. We had a hundred opportunities to do things and we didn't take advantage of any of them. We did not play well. We weren't a championship team today," Ditka said.

Ditka couldn't even find any good in the defense that gave up only seven points, thanks to a last-second stand against the Oilers at the one-yard line that prevented Houston from scoring a second touchdown on the last play of the game.

"I don't care," Ditka said. "They shouldn't have had to give up any. It doesn't matter if it's a team you're supposed to beat or a team you're not supposed to beat. If you're a championship team you have to rise up and beat them."

## Quarterback situation a mess

The Bears' quarterback situation was nothing short of confusing before the game. Jim McMahon was scheduled to start the game despite not throwing all week. But just before the game, Bears general manager Jerry Vainisi said Steve Fuller would start. But McMahon ended up starting the game anyway.

"He said he was ready to play," Ditka said. When asked why he switched late in the week to Fuller Ditka said, "Because Jim hadn't thrown a pass all week."

McMahon had a slow start throwing the ball, completing just six of 18 attempts in the first half. He completed seven of 15 attempts in the second half as the Bears scored 13 points.

"It must have been the adrenaline flowing because I threw it the same as I did in warmups," McMahon said. "But it was a little too strong a lot of times."

The Bears started to put the game out of reach finally in the third quarter when Payton scored on a one-yard run to give Chicago a 14-0 lead. Payton gained six yards two plays earlier for an apparent touchdown, but the replay official ruled he was just inches short of the goal line.

So the Bears were faced with a similar situation they had the previous week against Minnesota, when McMahon failed to score on a quarterback sneak from less than a yard out on two successive plays.

This time Ditka called on Payton, who was stopped short of the goal line on his first try, but scored the second time standing up.

## Crowd noise causes problems

The crowd was a major factor in the game on those plays and later in the fourth quarter when the Bears got near the end zone.

"The thing that really helped them was the crowd," McMahon said. "It was so loud some of those plays we make changes on but it's so loud you can't make the changes. Especially down at the goal line, we couldn't hear and were getting off the ball late. And they made a good play on us a couple times."

Later in the third quarter Houston came back and drove 82 yards on seven plays to score on an 18-yard pass from Warren Moon to Drew Hill, cutting Chicago's lead to 14-7.

The Bears increased the lead to 17-7 when Kevin Butler made a 31-yard field goal five minutes into the fourth quarter. It marked the 13th straight game in which Butler has made a field goal for the Bears, breaking the old record of 12 games set by George Blanda.

On the drive, Chicago made it down to the four-yard line on an 18-yard pass from McMahon to Keith Ortego. But the Bears were pushed back to the Oilers' 12-yard line when McMahon was sacked on first and goal, and Payton later lost seven yards on a third-down run.

Butler finished the scoring with a 27-yard field goal with 4:29 left to make the final score 20-7.

"We expected a tough football game," said Mike Singletary. "But at the same time there were a lot of things we didn't do very well. We went out there and played hard, but at times we didn't play smart."

## McMahon, receivers not together

The offense also didn't seem to be quite in sync, especially in the first half. McMahon and his receivers weren't together a lot and were mixed up on patterns at times. Ditka saw it as both McMahon's and the receivers' fault.

"I saw the guys that were open and the pass wasn't thrown to him. And then when the guy was open, he dropped it," Ditka said.



Jim McMahon gave a gutsy performance as he moved Chicago's offense downfield during Sunday's 20-7 win over Houston at the Astrodome. (Bear Report photo by Lou Witt)

"Then we run a play for a touchdown and we got a guy blocking with his hands instead of his shoulders. We're gonna take all the shoulder pads off our people and put hand pads on them."

Ditka was referring to Neal Anderson's 66-yard touchdown run that was called back on a holding penalty on Jay Hilgenberg. But Anderson was still able to feel good about the run.

"It was just a basic outside sweep play," he said. "The linemen made some outstanding blocks and Walter had a good block on it. And it was just a race to the end zone from there."

"It was a good feeling to have my first touchdown, even though it was called back. I really wasn't out to prove anything to the coaches. I just go out and give 100 percent whenever I'm in the game."

Chicago took a 7-0 lead in the second quarter when Dennis Gentry came off the bench and scored on a 21-yard run up the middle. Gentry had a huge hole to run through and made it into the end zone untouched.

"It wasn't easy," Gentry said. "It was just good execution and we took advantage of the defense they were in. You have to be able to adjust and do things for whatever the situation calls for."

## McMahon out for one play

McMahon played on the first down of the second quarter, but left after completing a four-yard pass to Tim Wrightman.

"Someone knocked the s--- out of me," McMahon said. "They hit me in the elbow just as I was releasing the ball. And then they hit me in the stomach and knocked the wind out of me. They did a good job of coming after me."

Steve Fuller replaced McMahon, and the Bears ran a reverse to Willie Gault that gained 21 yards. Fuller threw a key block on the play, then left as McMahon entered the game again on the next play.

The Bears lost a possible scoring opportunity near the end of the half when the defense had the Oilers faced with a third down and 17 situation at the Oilers' 25-yard line. If the defense had held, Chicago's offense could have had the ball with about 1:30 left.

But Dan Hampton was called for a personal foul for hitting Moon after a whistle stopped play at the snap.

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# Bears-Oilers Official Statistics

## SCORING SUMMARY

Chicago	0	7	7	6	—	20
Houston	0	0	7	0	—	7
Chicago, 2, 12:44, Gentry 21-yd. run (PAT Butler), 7-0						
Chicago, 3, 6:04, Payton 1-yd. run (PAT Butler), 14-0						
Houston, 3, 13:30, Hill 18-yd. pass from Moon (PAT Zendejas), 14-7						
Chicago, 4, 5:08, Butler 31-yd. field goal, 17-7						
Chicago, 4, 13:32, Butler 27-yd. field goal, 20-7						
Attendance: 46,026; tickets distributed: 50,227; unused: 4,201; time: 3:36						
Weather: Indoors						

PENALTIES — NO. AND YDS.	6-61	9-67
FUMBLES — NO. AND LOST	2-1	1-0
TOUCHDOWNS	2	1
Rushing	2	0
Passing	0	1
Returns	0	0
EXTRA POINTS MADE — ATT.	2-2	1-1
FG MADE — ATT.	2-2	0-1
TIME OF POSSESSION	35:22	24:38

PUNT RETURNS		No.	FC	Yds.	LG	TD
Barnes .....		3	3	36	18	0
KICKOFF RETURNS		No.	Yds.	LG	TD	
Sanders .....		2	76	44	0	
FUMBLES		Fum.	Own Rec.	Yds.	TD	
Payton .....		1	0	0	0	
Thomas .....		1	1	0	0	

## FINAL TEAM STATISTICS

	Bears	Oilers
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	23	19
By Rushing	11	7
By Passing	9	10
By Penalty	3	2
THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY	6-13	3-10
FOURTH DOWN EFFICIENCY	0-0	0-0
TOTAL NET YARDS	360	283
Total Off. Plays		
(Inc. times passing)	70	63
Av. Gain per Off. Play	5.1	4.4
NET YARDS RUSHING	157	128
Total Rushing Plays	36	29
Av. Gain Per Rush. Play	5.6	4.4
NET YARDS PASSING	203	155
Times Thrown —		
Yds. Lost Att. To Pass	1-6	5-49
Gross Yds. Passing	209	204
PASS ATT. — COMP. —		
HAD INTERCEPTED	33-13-1	29-13-1
Av. Gain Per Pass Play		
(Inc. times thrown passing)	5.9	4.5
PUNTS — NO. AND AV.	5-38.6	8-40.9
Had Blocked	0	0
TOTAL RET. YARDAGE	116	57
No. and Yds. Punt Ret.	3-36	0-0
No. and Yds. KO Returns	2-76	3-46
No. and Yds. Interc. Ret.	1-4	1-11

## FINAL INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Chicago Bears						
RUSHING	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	
Payton	22	76	3.5	17	1	
Suhey	4	18	4.5	9	0	
Gault	2	28	14.0	21	0	
McMahon	2	2	1.0	2	0	
Gentry	2	25	12.5	21	1	
Thomas	1	0	0.0	0	0	
Anderson	3	8	2.7	8	0	
PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Yds.	TD	LG
McMahon	33	13	209	1/6	0	30
PASS RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	LG	TD		
Gault	2	27	24	0		
Barnes	1	13	13	0		
Wrightman	2	19	15	0		
Suhey	3	51	22	0		
Moorehead	2	22	14	0		
Ortego	2	47	29	0		
Payton	1	30	30	0		
INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	LG	TD		
Marshall	1	4	4	0		
PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG
Buford	5	193	38.6	1	3	51

Houston Oilers						
RUSHING	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	
Moriarty	8	19	2.4	4.0	0	
Rozier	17	85	5.0	18	0	
Moon	3	19	6.3	9	0	
Woolfolk	1	5	5.0	5	0	
PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Yds.	TD	LG
Moon	29	12	204	5/49	1	28
PASS RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	LG	TD		
Hill	5	84	23	1		
Rozier	1	19	19	0		
Woolfolk	2	38	28	0		
Drewrey	2	30	24	0		
Givins	2	33	19	0		
INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	LG	TD		
Eason	1	11	11	0		
PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG
L. Johnson	8	327	40.9	0	1	59
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	LG	TD	
Drewrey	0	1	0	0	0	

Continued Page 7



Warren Moon was constantly running for his life Sunday when the Bears put on their rush. Here, Otis Wilson puts the pressure on Moon, who went down five times trying to pass against Chicago. (Bear Report photo by Lou Witt)

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# Bears testing depth as McMahon ponders surgery

After six games, the question was not only how far can the Bears go, but how deep. They were answering both questions with great confidence.

When they beat the Vikings in Chicago, they became the first Super Bowl champion ever to win its first five games the following season. In fact, they were the first world champion to start 5-0 since the 1962 Packers, who started 10-0 and repeated.

But the way the Bears were winning was what both impressed and scared them. Substitutes were coming through right and left, but injuries were beginning to worry them. Many more nagging hurts and the well was bound to run dry.

Keith Ortego was playing flanker because Dennis Gentry was hurt after Ken Margerum was hurt after Dennis McKinnon was hurt. So all Ortego did was



By  
Don  
Pierson

catch six passes for 157 yards, set up one touchdown and score the clincher against the Vikings, who will pay more attention to him this week in the Metrodome.

"You just have to believe," said coach Mike Ditka.

The Bears had seven sacks against Tommy Kramer, yet played without the National Football League's leading sacker of a year ago, Richard Dent, out with a leg injury.

They played with guard Mark Bortz, but his replacement was Kurt Becker. Bortz had started 35 games for the Bears; Becker 33.

In place of Dent, Mike Hartenstine played in his 168th consecutive game and was backed up by another former starter at end, Al Harris. If necessary, the Bears had a third end with starting experience, Henry Waechter.

"We need everybody, but you can only play with 11 on the field and the 11 we have who are healthy," Ditka said. "Mike Hartenstine played so well. And to see Al Harris come off the bench and make a sack, that's what makes coaching fun... to say, 'O.K., not everybody is well, but we can go out and win a football game.'"

## Bears don't want to experiment

It's fun, but nobody wants to make it a habit. The Bears don't want to experiment and see how far they can go with so few.

"Our major concern is to protect ourselves from injury right now," said strong safety Dave Duerson. "We have 45 who can play, but we have quite a few who are nicked up. We can't afford to have people laid up for three and four weeks. Ken Margerum has been out. Dennis Gentry has been out. We've already called on others to make plays and guys have all risen to the occasion. But it makes for a stressful working situation."

Quarterback Jim McMahon was walking around with a pack of ice strapped to his shoulder. His mind was pondering surgery to alleviate the pain.

"I don't like waking up and not being able to sleep," McMahon said.

The separated shoulder that McMahon incurred in the opener is supposed to stop giving him so much pain within a week or two. But if he keeps getting bounced to the ground, the pain will continue indefinitely.



Bears quarterback Jim McMahon is considering off-season surgery to repair his right shoulder he separated in the first game of the season. (Bear Report photo by Lou Witt)

McMahon said doctors have told him an arthroscopic operation to cut away some bone would require four weeks of rest.

"There's a lot of temptation, but the thing that worries me is whether or not I can recover that quick. In the past, I have been able to," McMahon said.

"As long as I can throw the ball, I'd just rather go ahead and play with pain than have to deal with trying to recover after surgery. I'm throwing the ball good; it's just not fun having to feel this way all the time."

## Surgery is likely after the season

McMahon said surgery after the season is a probability.

"I would think so. Then again, it might just heal up. I'd hate to go in there and have exploratory surgery. If they definitely said the joint is gone and they can fix it, I'd do it," McMahon said.

The way doctors have described it to McMahon, cartilage in the AC joint is "chewed up." One bone is rubbing against another, causing a clicking sound and subsequent pain. The operation would trim some bone.

"It is not a difficult operation or a serious one," McMahon said.

Still, it is something Ditka prefers not to think about.

"I didn't know that," Ditka said when asked about McMahon's possible surgery.

"I don't know that he will ever feel just perfect. I think he'll feel good enough to play every week and will want to play, providing he doesn't take a shot directly on it."

Continued Next Page

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# Depth

Continued From Page 5

McMahon said he would love to have a few weeks of rest if the shoulder doesn't heal on its own and the Bears have the playoffs wrapped up.

That's a long way off, and clinching a home field advantage will be a longer way off until the Washington Redskins start losing.

"I think he's going to make it through the season, but I'm an optimist. I couldn't look at it the other way.

I don't like that scenario," Ditka said. "We've proven we can win with somebody else, but I don't think we play nearly so well. It's not nearly as smooth."

## Not afraid to line up with anyone

They have won with Steve Fuller and won with Mike Tomczak and won with Keith Ortego and won with Kurt Becker and won with Mike Hartenstine.

They are not afraid to line up anyone against anybody.

"We're fortunate to have players who can do the job and who could be starters on other teams," said Jimbo Covert. "A lot of teams don't have that."

How deep the Bears can dig is something they

would rather not explore, however.

They beat Minnesota 23-0 the first time and it looked easy. But look closer.

"The first play we turn the ball over and still walk out 0-0 after their field goal hits the upright," Ditka said.

The Bears failed to score at the goal line before the half and the Vikings turned the momentum into a three-quarter drive that might have made the score 10-7 and "a different ballgame."

"We're a little blessed if you think about it," Ditka said.



Walter Payton gained a few yards on this run on his way to eclipsing the 20,000-yard total offense mark in his career. Payton went over the mark on a 30-yard pass reception in the fourth quarter of Sunday's game. (Bear Report photo by Lou Witt)

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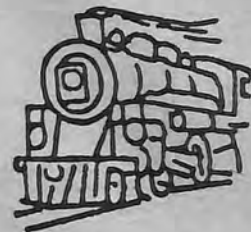
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# Injury report looking better for Chicago

The Bears' injury report has improved considerably over the past week. Richard Dent played in Sunday's game, overcoming his groin pull injury. And Mark Bortz cut his recovery time in half from a knee injury and played in the Houston game.

Bortz injured his knee when William Perry fell on him during a pass rushing drill the previous week on the rain-soaked practice field in Lake Forest. Bortz originally was expected to miss two and a-half weeks.

Coach Mike Ditka liked the attitude Dent showed while he was injured and couldn't play. Dent kept in touch with defensive coordinator Vince Tobin throughout the Minnesota game, keeping tabs on what defenses the Bears were calling.



## Bear Notebook

"He never left Vince's side," Ditka said. "He went up and down the sidelines with Vince. He knew every defense we played. As a matter of fact he ran over me about three times — which is good. He was in the football game, which is what you like to see. If a guy can't go out there and play physically, you like to see him in the game mentally."

Todd Bell's hamstring continues to improve, and he is close to playing. But the Bears don't want to throw him in the game until he is completely ready.

"Todd has to work at his own pace until he's ready," Ditka said. "He is close, but he's not there yet. It's not gonna get any better if he keeps trying to go full speed. He can contribute a lot to us if we can get him on the field. And that's what we want to do. We want to play him but not unless he's well."

When Bell is able to play, Ditka said he will be used at first as a nickel back and on special teams.

But the way the Bears' defensive backs have been playing, Ditka may be reluctant to make a move any time soon.

"It's hard to change things when you're pretty comfortable and having success," Ditka said.

And Ditka said he knows it hasn't been easy on Bell waiting for a chance to get in the game after already sitting out one full season.

"I'm sure he has hurt, and that bothers me," Ditka said. "When we signed Todd this year, we signed him with the idea that he was going to come back and play for this football team. He never reached peak performance since he's been here. And I think he's near it now."

"When he's at peak performance he'll stand out on the field and play with anybody. This is a long season. This is only the sixth week and things should work out."

For now, though, Bell will just keep waiting to crack the lineup. "It is tough," Ditka said. "What are you going to do, start moving people around when you're having success? But something can give somewhere."

● **THE PRESSURE TO WIN** is much greater this year than it was last year, according to Ditka. "Last year we made a dream come true, this year the dream is now," he said. "I think it's a good pressure because you push yourself and the team pushes itself."

"And we understand what it took. It's tough on a person inside. I'm a little crabby, I don't smile as much. I dress a little better, but that's about all. I get a little madder this year. Things bother me a little more. The fact that we're world champions means we shouldn't do wrong, which is a foolish thought. But that's the way I look at it."

It's been said that the great teams are the ones that repeat as champions, and that's what Ditka will find out this year.

"I just don't know if we're a great team yet," he said. "I have a suspicion that we could be a great team."

● **GARY FENCIK BROKE THE TEAM** record for takeaways with his fumble recovery against Minnesota.

Fencik has 36 interceptions and 12 fumble recoveries in his career, for a total of 48 takeaways. Dick Butkus held the record with 47 takeaways in his nine-year career.

● **DITKA THOUGHT COMPLACENCY** would be one of the main things he would have to guard against as head coach this year. But he says it hasn't been a problem at all so far.

"Our players don't have any problem getting ready for football," he said. "They're all mature and know what they want to accomplish. They have something to prove. They have a big challenge in front of them. They all understand that."



Richard Dent (middle) returned to the Bears' lineup Sunday after missing one game and put some pressure on Houston's quarterback Warren Moon. (Bear Report photo by Lou Witt)

Ditka hasn't had to get on any backs so far to get a good performance on the field. "It's one thing to say I have to be on them all the time. Maybe I am on them some of the time. But I think they're on each other, too. They all want to excel at what they're doing," he said.

"I don't see that the complacent thing is a problem. If we get beat, we're going to get beat because the other team played better, not because we're not going in there ready to play."

● **DENNIS MCKINNON AND LESLIE FRAZIER** are on schedule in their recoveries from offseason surgery.

Caito said, though, that neither will play this season but they are on schedule to return in time for the 1987 season.

"They're doing fine. Dennis saw the doctor who performed the surgery a few weeks ago, and the doctor was very pleased," Caito said. "The program remains the same. Leslie is trying to get some motion back, but we're not looking at him for this season."

● **CHICAGO'S TEAM RANKINGS** in the league and conference continue to improve.

In the NFC, Chicago's offense is ranked first in rushing, ninth in passing and third overall.

In the league, the Bears' offense is still first in rushing, 21st in passing and fifth overall.

The defense is first in the conference against the rush, 11th against the pass and third overall.

In the league, the defense is second against the rush, 17th against the pass and fifth overall.

Through the first five games the Bears are plus four in takeaways vs. giveaways.

Kevin Butler leads the conference in scoring with 48 points and is tied with New England's Tony Franklin for the league lead.

Walter Payton is tied for second in the conference in touchdown scoring with 36 points. And he is in second behind Eric Dickerson in rushing with 506 yards. Dickerson has rushed for 657 yards.

Dave Duerson is second in the league in interceptions with four. Ronnie Lott of San Francisco leads with five.

And through five games the Bears' Steve McMichael leads the NFC in sacks with 5.5.

## Statistics

Continued From Page 4

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	LG	TD
Pinkett .....	1	0	0	0
Drewrey .....	2	46	25	0

FUMBLES	Fum.	Own Rec.	Yds.	TD
Eason .....	1	0	0	0
Grimsley .....	0	1	0	0

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS							
Bears							
	T	A	SK	YL	Int.	PD	FR
Duerson .....	1	0	1	-15	0	0	0
Richardson .....	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fencik .....	6	1	0	0	0	2	0
Phillips .....	2	1	0	0	0	1	0
Singletary .....	10	1	1	-12	0	1	0

Continued Page 10



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# Minnesota Vikings vs. Chicago Bears



**Sunday, Oct. 19**  
**The Metrodome**  
**Minneapolis**  
**Noon, CST**



## Minnesota Vikings Numerical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yr.	College
1	Chuck Nelson	K	5-11	175	26	3	Washington
8	Greg Coleman	P	6-0	180	32	10	Florida A&M
9	Tommy Kramer	QB	6-2	202	31	10	Rice
11	Wade Wilson	QB	6-3	210	27	6	East Texas St.
13	Steve Bono	QB	6-3	211	24	2	UCLA
20	Darrin Nelson	RB	5-9	185	27	5	Stanford
21	Rufus Bess	CB	5-9	187	30	8	S. Carolina St.
23	Ted Brown	RB	5-10	206	29	8	N. Carolina St.
26	David Evans	CB	6-0	180	27	1	Central Arkansas
30	Issiac Holt	CB	6-1	197	24	2	Alcorn St.
35	Kyle Morrell	S	6-1	189	23	1	Brigham Young
36	Allen Rice	RB	5-10	198	24	3	Baylor
39	Carl Lee	DB	5-11	185	25	4	Marshall
44	John Harris	S	6-2	204	29	9	Arizona St.
45	Wayne Wilson	RB	6-3	220	29	8	Shepherd
46	Alfred Anderson	RB	6-1	213	25	3	Baylor
47	Joey Browner	S	6-2	205	26	4	USC
51	Jim Hough	C/G	6-2	268	30	9	Utah State
54	Jesse Solomon	LB	6-0	249	23	R	Florida State
55	Scott Studwell	LB	6-2	231	32	10	Illinois
56	Chris Doleman	LB	6-5	250	25	2	Pittsburgh
57	Chris Martin	LB	6-2	230	26	4	Auburn
58	Walker Lee Ashley	LB	6-0	231	26	3	Penn State
62	Brent Boyd	G	6-3	275	29	6	UCLA
65	Gary Zimmerman	T	6-6	280	25	1	Oregon
66	Terry Tausch	G	6-5	270	27	5	Texas
67	Dennis Swilley	C	6-3	245	31	9	Texas A&M
71	Mark MacDonald	G	6-4	267	25	2	Boston College
72	David Huffman	T	6-6	283	29	7	Notre Dame
73	Neil Elshire	DE	6-6	261	28	6	Oregon
75	Keith Millard	DT	6-6	260	24	2	Washington St.
76	Tim Irwin	T	6-7	288	27	6	Tennessee
77	Mark Mullaney	DE	6-6	242	33	12	Colorado State
79	Doug Martin	DE	6-3	255	29	7	Washington
80	Jim Gustafson	WR	6-1	185	25	1	St. Thomas
82	Carl Hilton	TE	6-3	229	22	R	Houston
83	Steve Jordan	TE	6-3	231	25	5	Brown
84	Hassan Jones	WR	6-0	198	22	R	Florida St.
86	Mike Mularkey	TE	6-4	233	25	4	Florida
87	Leo Lewis	WR	5-8	172	30	6	Missouri
88	Buster Rhymes	WR	6-1	212	24	2	Oklahoma
91	Joe Phillips	DT	6-4	280	23	R	SMU
95	Gerald Robinson	DE	6-3	253	23	R	Auburn
96	Tim Newton	DT	6-0	302	23	2	Florida
99	David Howard	LB	6-2	225	25	2	Cal St. Lg. Beach

### INJURED RESERVE

Willie Teal CB; Neal Guggemos S; Kirk Lowdermilk C; Grant Feasel T; Gary Schippang T

### HEAD COACH: Jerry Burns

ASSISTANTS: Bob Schnelker, Floyd Peters, Tom Batta, Pete Carroll, Monte Kiffin, John Michels, Dick Rehbein, Marc Trestman, Paul Wiggin



QUARTERBACK TOMMY KRAMER

## Chicago Bears Numerical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yr.	College
4	Steve Fuller	QB	6-4	195	29	8	Clemson
6	Kevin Butler	K	6-1	195	24	2	Georgia
8	Maury Buford	P	6-1	191	26	5	Texas Tech
9	Jim McMahon	QB	6-1	190	27	5	BYU
18	Mike Tomczak	QB	6-1	195	24	2	Ohio State
20	Thomas Sanders	RB	5-11	203	24	2	Texas A & M
22	Dave Duerson	S	6-1	203	25	4	Notre Dame
23	Shaun Gayle	CB	5-11	193	24	3	Ohio St.
24	Vestee Jackson	DB	6-0	186	22	R	Washington
25	Todd Bell	S	6-1	205	27	5	Ohio State
26	Matt Suhey	FB	5-11	216	28	7	Penn State
27	Mike Richardson	CB	6-0	188	25	4	Arizona St.
29	Dennis Gentry	RB	5-8	181	27	5	Baylor
33	Calvin Thomas	FB	5-11	245	26	5	Illinois
34	Waller Payton	RB	5-10	202	31	12	Jackson St.
35	Neal Anderson	RB	5-11	210	21	R	Florida
45	Gary Fencik	S	6-1	196	32	11	Yale
48	Reggie Phillips	DB	5-10	170	25	2	SMU
50	Mike Singletary	LB	6-0	228	27	6	Baylor
51	Jim Morrissey	LB	6-3	215	23	2	Michigan State
52	Larry Rubens	C	6-2	262	27	3	Montana State
53	Dan Rains	LB	6-1	229	32	3	Cincinnati
55	Otis Wilson	LB	6-2	232	28	7	Louisville
57	Tom Thayer	G/C	6-4	261	24	2	Notre Dame
58	Wilber Marshall	LB	6-1	225	24	3	Florida
59	Ron Rivera	LB	6-3	239	24	3	California
62	Mark Bortz	G	6-6	269	25	4	Iowa
63	Jay Hilgenberg	C	6-3	258	27	6	Iowa
68	Paul Blair	OT	6-4	295	22	R	Oklahoma State
70	Henry Wachter	DT	6-5	275	27	5	Nebraska
72	William Perry	DT	6-2	308	23	2	Clemson
73	Mike Hartstine	DE	6-3	254	32	12	Penn State
74	Jim Covert	T	6-4	271	26	4	Pittsburgh
76	Steve McMichael	DT	6-2	260	28	7	Texas
78	Keith Van Horne	T	6-6	280	28	6	USC
79	Kurt Becker	G	6-5	267	27	5	Michigan
80	Tim Wrightman	TE	6-3	237	26	2	UCLA
81	Lew Barnes	WR	5-8	163	23	R	Oregon
83	Willie Gault	WR	6-1	183	25	4	Tennessee
86	Clay Pickering	WR	6-5	215	25	3	Maine
87	Emery Moorehead	TE	6-2	220	32	10	Colorado
89	Keith Ortego	WR	6-0	180	22	2	McNeese State
90	Al Harris	LB	6-5	253	29	7	Arizona St.
95	Richard Dent	DE	6-5	263	25	4	Tenn State
99	Dan Hampton	DT	6-5	267	28	8	Arkansas

Injured Reserve — LB Brian Cabral, OT Andy Frederick, FB E.J. Jones, RB Calvin Murray, LG Rick Schulte, TE Riley Walton, WR Doug Donley, TE Tim Stracka, OG Stefan Humphries, WR Ken Margerum.

Physically Unable to Perform — WR Dennis McKinnon, CB Leslie Frazier.

Non-Football Injury — WR Glenn Kozlowski.

HEAD COACH: Mike Ditka

ASSISTANTS: Jim Dooley, Ed Hughes, Steve Kazor, Greg Landry, Jim LaRue, John Lewis, Dave McGinnis, Johnny Roland, Dick Stanfel, Vince Tobin.

### Special to the Bear Report

There's no doubt the Minnesota Vikings aren't thrilled about facing the Bears again next Sunday, considering the outcome of the last encounter between the two NFC Central rivals.

In that contest, on Oct. 5 at Soldier Field in Chicago, the Bears outplayed the Vikings in all phases of the game en route to a 23-0 triumph. Minnesota had not been shut out since 1980. The Vikings win streak halted at three and they fell two games behind the Bears in the division race.

Last Sunday, the Vikings kept their division title hopes alive by notching a 27-24 overtime victory at San Francisco. Placekicker Chuck Nelson's 28-yard field goal in the extra period sent Minnesota home a winner. A victory at the Metrodome next Sunday would cut the Bears' division lead down to one game.

Prior to the first Bears-Vikings encounter, Minnesota quarterback Tommy Kramer had been the highest rated signal-caller in the league. But he didn't have a prayer against the Bears. He completed just 11 of 30 passes for 163 yards, was intercepted twice and sacked seven times. Kramer's string of passes without an interception stopped at 115.

"I know I've done all right against Chicago in the past," said Kramer, "but give the Bears credit today. We just didn't play as well as we are able."

### Kramer not as sharp

"I've got to say that Tommy wasn't as sharp as I've seen him," added Minnesota head coach Jerry Burns. Nevertheless, Kramer still led the NFL in touchdown passes (11) after five weeks and ranked third in the conference with a 94.1 rating.

The Bears' defensive line made mincemeat out of the Vikings' offensive line throughout the Oct. 5 contest. The endless mismatches had Kramer running for his life.

"They did things pretty much as we expected. We just didn't handle them as well as we should have," said Viking tackle Jim Irwin.

### Kramer deadly when he has time

When Kramer has time to throw, he can be deadly. Against the Packers in game four, he threw six touchdown passes, five in the first half. His favorite targets are rookie wide receiver Hassan Jones (15 for 332, 4 touchdowns), tight end Steve Jordan (14 for 189, 2 TDs) and right back Darrin Nelson (11 for 140, 1 TD). Speedster Anthony Carter also has returned to the lineup after spending the first four weeks of the '86 campaign on injured reserve with a knee injury. Carter caught one pass for 18 yards against the Bears on Oct. 5.

"This is the most talent I've had to work with since I got here," says Kramer. "For a while in the early '80s, we had

Ahmad Rashad, Sammy White and Joe Senser, but we didn't have this much depth."

Minnesota's running game, which ranks 22nd in the league, did nothing against the Bears. The Vikings were held to 45 yards on the ground and averaged just 2.3 per carry. Fullback Allen Rice was the leading rusher with 24 yards on six carries. Nelson had only five yards in six attempts.

Nelson is the team's leading rusher with 237 yards on 57 carries. Alfred Anderson is next at 81 yards on 22 carries. Both Ted Brown and Rice have rushed for 73 yards.

Last week the Bears became the only team to score a second half touchdown against the Vikings this season. Chicago compiled 370 yards (199 passing, 171 rushing).

"Our defense played hard and well except for a couple of lapses," said Burns.

"When you are on the field as much as we were, you get tired," added defensive end Keith Millard.

### Defense second in the league

After five weeks, the Minnesota defense ranked second in the NFC. They were ninth against the rush and second against the pass. Minnesota was tied with the Bears for least points allowed (60).

Minnesota's defensive leaders include strong safety

Continued Page 13





The Vikings will try to force more turnovers on Sunday like this fumble by the Bears' Matt Suhey in the teams' first meeting this year. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

## Lineups

### Minnesota

### Chicago

#### Offense

WR 84 Hassan Jones, 88 Buster Rhymes  
 LT 65 Gary Zimmerman, 72 David Huffman  
 LG 51 Jim Hough, 62 Brent Boyd  
 C 67 Dennis Swilley, 51 Jim Hough  
 RG 66 Terry Tausch, 71 Mark MacDonald  
 RT 76 Tim Irwin, 72 David Huffman  
 TE 83 Steve Jordan, 86 Mike Mularkey  
 FL 87 Leo Lewis, 89 Mike Jones  
 QB 9 Tommy Kramer, 11 Wade Wilson  
 FB 46 Alfred Anderson, 23 Ted Brown  
 RB 20 Darrin Nelson, 36 Allen Rice

WR 83 Willie Gault, 89 Keith Ortego  
 LT 74 Jim Covert, 68 Paul Blair  
 LG 62 Mark Bortz, 79 Kurt Becker  
 C 63 Jay Hilgenberg, 52 Larry Rubens  
 RG 57 Tom Thayer, 79 Kurt Becker  
 RT 78 Keith Van Horne, 68 Paul Blair  
 TE 87 Emery Moorehead, 80 Tim Wrightman  
 WR 89 Keith Ortego, 29 Dennis Gentry  
 RB 34 Walter Payton, 20 Tom Sanders  
 FB 26 Matt Suhey, 33 Calvin Thomas  
 QB 9 Jim McMahon, 4 Steve Fuller

#### Defense

LE 79 Doug Martin, 73 Neil Elshire  
 LT 96 Tim Newton, 91 Joe Phillips  
 RT 75 Keith Millard, 98 Gary Palumbis  
 RE 77 Mark Mullaney, 95 Gerald Robinson  
 LLB 56 Chris Doleman, 57 Chris Martin  
 MLB 55 Scott Studwell, 58 Walker Lee Ashley  
 RLB 99 David Howard, 54 Jesse Solomon  
 LCB 30 Issiac Holt, 27 John Turner  
 RCB 39 Carl Lee, 28 Ted Rosnagle  
 SS 47 Joey Browner, 21 Rufus Bess  
 FS 43 Mike Lush, 35 Kyle Morrell

LE 99 Dan Hampton, 73 Mike Hartenstine  
 LT 76 Steve McMichael, 70 Henry Waechter  
 RT 72 William Perry, 70 Henry Waechter  
 RE 95 Richard Dent, 73 Mike Hartenstine  
 LLB 55 Otis Wilson, 59 Ron Rivera  
 MLB 50 Mike Singletary, 59 Ron Rivera  
 RLB 58 Wilber Marshall, 90 Al Harris  
 LC 27 Mike Richardson, 24 Vestee Jackson  
 RC 48 Reggie Phillips, 24 Vestee Jackson  
 SS 22 Dave Duerson, 25 Todd Bell  
 FS 45 Gary Fencik, 23 Shaun Gayle

#### Specialists

K 1 Chuck Nelson, 5 Jeff Brockhaus  
 P 8 Greg Coleman  
 PC 51 Jim Hough, 72 David Huffman  
 KC 51 Jim Hough, 72 David Huffman  
 H 8 Greg Coleman  
 KOR 21 Rufus Bess, 88 Buster Rhymes  
 PR 21 Rufus Bess, 87 Leo Lewis

PK 6 Kevin Butler  
 P 8 Maury Buford  
 PR 81 Lew Barnes, 89 Keith Ortego  
 KR 29 Dennis Gentry, 20 Thomas Sanders  
 KC 63 Jay Hilgenberg, 52 Larry Rubens  
 PC 52 Larry Rubens, 63 Jay Hilgenberg  
 H 4 Steve Fuller, 18 Mike Tomczak

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# Statistics

Continued From Page 7

Wilson	3	2	1	-7	0	0	0
Marshall	3	3	0	0	1	1	1
Perry	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
McMichael	2	1	1	-8	0	0	0
Hampton	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Dent	4	1	1	-7	0	0	0
McMahon	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Rains	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Thomas	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sanders	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Oilers							
	T	A	SK	YL	Int.	PD	FR
Eason	2	0	0	0	1	1	0
Brown	3	0	0	0	0	2	0
Bostic	6	1	0	0	0	0	0
Allen	4	1	0	0	0	2	0
Riley	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Abraham	4	1	0	0	0	0	0
Golic	2	0	0	0	0	0	1
Byrd	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Childress	5	1	1	-6	0	0	0
Meads	2	3	0	0	0	0	0
Lyles	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
Donaldson	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
Grimsley	6	6	0	0	0	1	1
Smith	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Givens	1	0	0	0	0	0	9
Griffin	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
McMillian	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fairs	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Akiu	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Forced Fumbles: Bostic 1, Grimsley 1

## Doug's Picks

**BEARS by 10 over VIKINGS**  
*No problem again*

**EAGLES by SIX over COWBOYS**  
*Upsets of the week*

**RAMS by SEVEN over LIONS**  
*L.A. will bounce back*

**BROWNS by 14 over PACKERS**  
*Still uphill for Green Bay*

**BENGALS by SEVEN over OILERS**  
*Home field to Cincinnati*

**BILLS by 14 over COLTS**  
*Buffalo will do it to them*

**RAIDERS by SEVEN over DOLPHINS**  
*Gets tougher for Miami*

**PATRIOTS by 10 over STEELERS**  
*Pittsburgh still struggling*

**SEAHAWKS by SIX over GIANTS**  
*Seattle will be tough*

**REDSKINS by 14 over CARDINALS**  
*St. Louis no match*

**CHIEFS by 10 over CHARGERS**  
*Kansas City is improving*

**49ERS by 10 over FALCONS**  
*Atlanta will fade*

**SAINTS by SIX over Buccaneers**  
*Easy for New Orleans*

**BRONCOS by 13 over JETS**  
*New York overrated*

**Last week's record: 7-6**  
**Season record: 55-28**

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Chicago's Otis Wilson (left) and Mike Singletary jam up the inside against Houston's Mike Rozier during first-half action. (Bear Report photo by Lou Witt)



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# Healthy QBs the exception in the NFL

Jim McMahon objects to being called brittle, and he has a point. Nobody says stunt men or race-car drivers are injury prone. Against blitzing NFL defense, which has become a redundancy, the quarterback who stays healthy is the exception.

"I don't think it's realistic at all to expect a quarterback to stay healthy for 16 games," Bear backup Steve Fuller said after McMahon's shoulder separation knocked him out of the opener and the next two games. "As a quarterback, you're very vulnerable. You're not protected. You're not as big and strong as the other guys. You get in positions that subject yourself to hits. It's going to happen."

This year already, eight first-string quarterbacks missed starts in the first five games. Several others have been unable to finish games — including Jack Trudeau, who replaced the Colts' injured Gary Hogeboom.

By  
Kevin  
Lamb



Last year, only five NFL quarterbacks started and finished all 16 games unless they came out when the outcome was decided. The previous two seasons, it was 14 of a possible 56. Five of the teams that changed quarterbacks last year did so because of performance instead of injury, but even bad games can result from the beatings a quarterback takes. McMahon may not play his best this season with a throwing shoulder that needs surgery.

"They may have to put some kind of limit on the amount of people you can bring across the line of scrimmage for anyone to finish the season with quarterbacks," says Ed Hughes, the Bears' offensive coordinator. "Or even a game maybe. Under the circumstances, you could wipe out all the quarterbacks in one game."

Pass rushes have turned into lynch mobs. Blitzing is in, which means quarterbacks are out.

"The quarterback's fair game," Bear coach Mike Ditka says. "Everybody knows if you get him out of there, the other team's not going to be as effective." Even if he can finish the game, he's not likely to complete a lot of passes from his back.

McMahon spits as contemptuously at pain as any football player, but quarterbacks have to be reasonably effective to play. In the Bears' 50 games since he became their starter in 1983, McMahon has been able to start only 34.

Injuries have bothered him in at least nine others, counting his three starts after the shoulder separation this year. But the Bears went to Houston Sunday 29-4 in McMahon's starts, with 20 straight wins. Even at 90 percent, he's awfully important.

The quarterback is usually the most glamorous, highly paid and important player on his team. He's also the object of fans' adoration and owners' investments.

It's as if baseball teams could pick one opposing hitter to throw at in every game. No other sport is so cannibalistic with its stars.

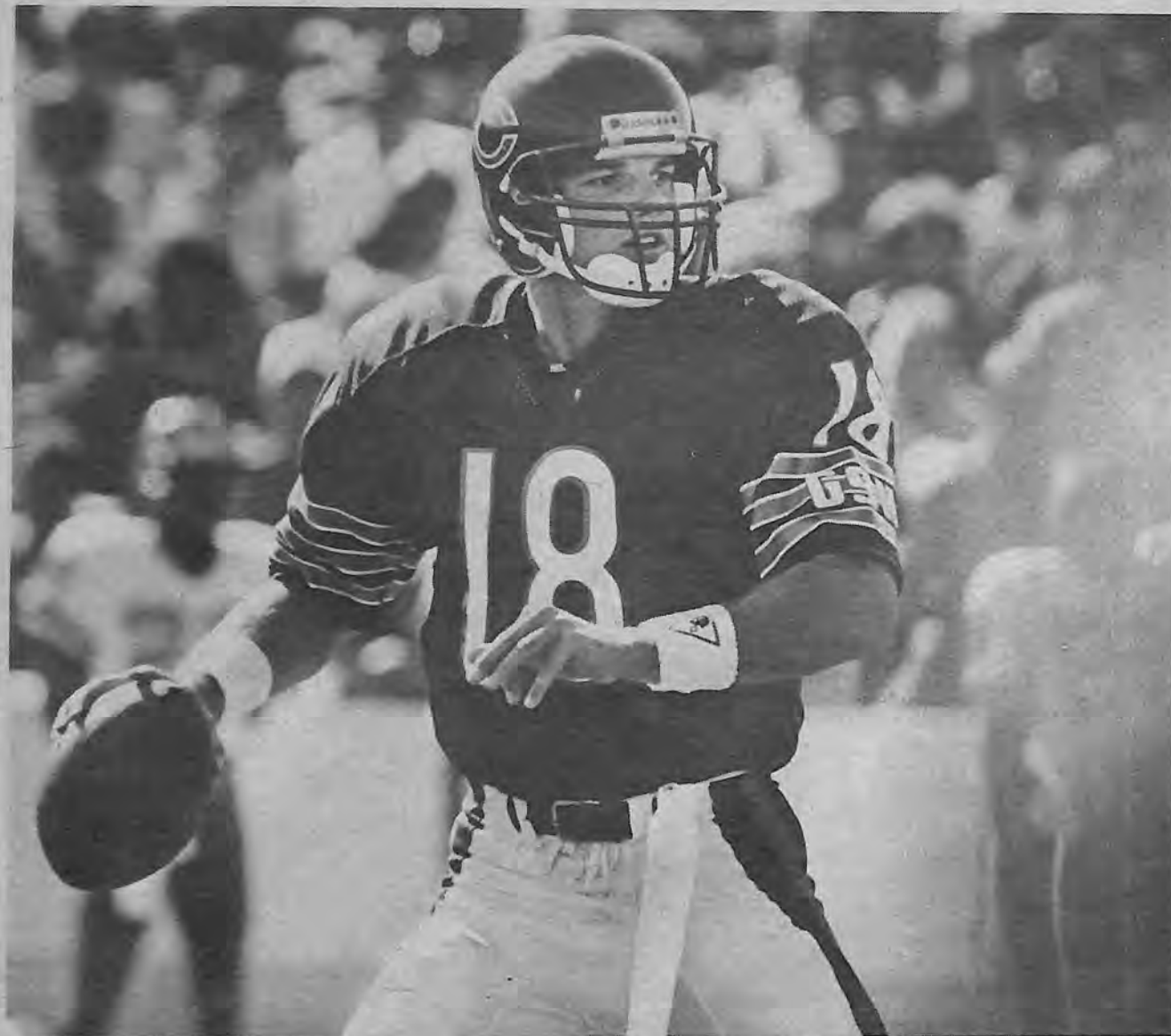
## Sacks are on the rise

From 1981 to 1985, NFL sacks rose by 28 percent. And as Fuller says, "Even when you get the ball off, you usually take a hit."

"As much as sacks are up," says Ted Plumb, Philadelphia's offensive coordinator after six years with the Bears, "the pounding on quarterbacks is up even more."

So every pass becomes dangerous. But teams keep passing more. They have to. That's the nature of the game now. From 1977 to 1985, NFL pass plays increased by 28 percent a game, a rate tapering only slightly this year. "That's 20-some percent more plays where the quarterback ends up getting smacked," says Leigh Steinberg, an agent who specializes in high-profile players. "We're facing a serious quarterback shortage."

There's not much relief in sight from the rulemakers. Blitzing can't be limited. "It's the only chance you've got on defense," says Paul Brown, Cincinnati's general manager and an influential member of the committee that



The Bears' Mike Tomczak has been one of many backup quarterbacks in the NFL who has had a chance to play because of injuries to the starters this year. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

proposes rule changes.

The rulemakers' last life rings to the quarterbacks were the 1979 provision that they didn't have to hit the ground to be sacked and the 1980 rule against hitting their heads. Before that, a 1978 change gave blockers more leeway in holding defenders. But that backfired.

For a while, it gave quarterbacks more time. But defenses struck back like wounded animals. "You have to blitz when people are holding you all the time," says Eagle coach Buddy Ryan, who set the blitzing standard as the Bears' defensive coordinator.

One thing the league office can do is crack down on late hits. But only a few referees penalize them closely. Fines after the fact tend to infuriate more than deter.

"I think when people pick up and slam the quarterback, they ought to be ejected automatically," Ditka has said. "I think that has no place in football. The fine isn't going to hurt them as much as the ejection. You keep them out of that game, or another game, and you'll find out how quick they stop doing it."

## Most injured while running or throwing

Spectacular as the body slams are, dirty shots don't hurt many quarterbacks. Bear trainer Fred Caito says most quarterback injuries fall into two categories. He's hit either while he's running or while he's throwing.

If he's running, the quarterback can protect himself by sliding into the tackle. But again, NFL officials are lax about penalizing hits on sliding quarterbacks. They can help there. But there's little they can do for the quarterback who's throwing or following through.

"If they go any farther, they'll take away from the game," Bear safety Dave Duerson says. "They'll have to just say, 'Touch him down and we'll blow the whistle.'"

"It has to be a matter of offenses coming up with new schemes, just as we've countered all the big passing games of a few years ago. It's a chess match."

## Offenses try quicker passes

It's the offenses' move. They're trying. They're getting rid of the ball more quickly. Both for and against the Bears, more passes have been three steps and fire. Against blitzes, teams are more careful to have an outlet receiver.

"Instead of worrying about throwing the ball 10 or 15 yards," Ditka says, "if we can get it to somebody quick, he might be able to run 10 or 15 with it."

And if that guy's covered, McMahon almost always side-steps the first rush man. "He has problems when there's

a jailbreak on him," Ditka says, "but one guy, he can usually handle."

The Bears were tied for the league low in sacks allowed after five games, with five. They're setting an example on offense to counter the example their defense set last year.

"We shouldn't give up a lot of sacks," Ditka says. "We don't throw the ball that much." The Bears have the running game and defense to stay out of situations where opposing pass rushers can start pawing at the ground and drooling.

Ultimately, the only way to turn down the blitzing volume is to make defenses do it themselves. Punish them with big touchdown plays, as McMahon seemingly does every week. "If these people want to keep blitzing us, I think that's one of his real strengths," Ditka says.

"There's one encouraging sign that offenses are fighting back. The sack rate is down 15.5 percent from last year, even though pass plays have declined only one percent. But still, there's a limit to what an offense can do for its quarterback's safety."

"If you start trying to protect your quarterback too much with extra blockers, you change your whole emphasis," Fuller says. "You may protect your quarterback, but you're not going to score many points."

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## Heart association benefits from Butler's kicks this year

Bears' placekicker Kevin Butler is teaming up with the Chicago Heart Association this year to raise money for the association that serves Cook, DuPage and Lake counties.

Butler has pledged \$10 to the heart association for every point he scores this year. And he's hoping others will join him in pledging money for each point he scores during the season.

"The heart association does so much to promote it, but I have to be out there, too," Butler said. He has done fashion shows modeling furs with his wife one week, and has made other appearances throughout the tri-county area during the season.

"My father has heart problems, and my wife's dad died from a heart attack," Butler said. "I'm in the position and have the ability to make money for somebody else. I'm not going to make all that money for me."

Butler said so far the association has about \$450 in pledges for each point he scores this year. The goal is \$1,000 a point, or a total of \$150,000 raised if Butler scores 150 points. Last year he scored 144 points.

Butler said he initiated the idea with the heart association and set up a meeting with them.

"They've done everything else," he said. "They've got everything set up to go around promoting it and get more people involved with it. It's a good idea, I think, to make some good money for the heart association."

Butler, however, has been disappointed by the lack of involvement by the Bears' front office and its unwilling-

ness to participate in the program.

"I just think the Bears should be a community-minded group," Butler said. "That's the whole thing behind the Bears. I just thought the Bears would match the \$10 donation per point from me. I don't think they're going to, and they have a hell of a lot more money than I do."

Bears president Michael McCaskey said the Bears aren't making any commitment to the heart association because the Bears already contribute to the NFL Properties and the Brian Piccolo Memorial Cancer Fund.

"What they forgot was that George Halas sat on the heart association board for a long time," Butler said. "It's something that he was very involved in. And it was something I thought the Bears would be happy to get involved in. But it hasn't been that way."

"In fact, Michael McCaskey had said some things I thought were pretty low. He made a comment that it was a hassle. But I'm not getting any money out of it. That not only made me mad, but it made the heart association mad, too. Mr. McCaskey just had a heart attack recently. We both sent flowers to him. And the heart association was there in case there was anything they could do."

"It's something that's been in their family a while, and I was hoping they would get more involved. But it's kind of worked the opposite way."

On the field things have gone well for Butler and he's on schedule to reach the goal of 150 points.

Continued Page 14



Chicago's Kevin Butler is kicking this year to raise money for the Chicago Heart Association. Here, he gets some help from four-year old Heart Fund Princess Amanda Meeters.



# Days may be numbered for instant-replay rule

When the NFL owners meet in Hawaii next March don't be surprised if they abolish the controversial usage of instant replays as an officiating aide. They will need only eight "no" votes and it appears six teams have already decided to vote against the replay's continued use. Several other owners are on the fence.

At last year's owners' meetings in Palm Springs, Calif. the vote was 23-4-1 in favor of this year's experiment. But the owners approved it for one year only, subject to review at the end of the season. The instant replay must get 21 votes again in March in order to survive.

Teams that voted against the replay the first time were Denver, St. Louis and both New York teams. Apparently Pittsburgh and New Orleans have joined the minority.

Said Pittsburgh owner Art Rooney: "I'm not saying anything about it publicly. I don't want to say, 'I told you so.'"

New Orleans general manager Jim Finks said, "I was apprehensive about it then and I'm apprehensive about it now."

\*\*\*

By  
Brian  
Hewitt



## NFL Notebook

### •TUBE BOOB:

First-year Cardinal kicker John Lee's television superstitions border on the bizarre. Apparently Lee has developed a phobia about which network televises the St. Louis games.

"I never missed a field goal kicking on ABC in four years at UCLA," Lee said.

In his first preseason game this year he kicked three field goals in three tries on ABC. To date on CBS he is two of seven with a missed extra point. Twelve of the fifteen field goals he missed in his college career were on CBS broadcasts.

"The announcing crew of Gary Bender and Pat Haden really gets to me," Lee admits. "They've done nine of my games and I know I've missed at least one field goal in all nine. I don't want to sound superstitious because I'm not. But this really blows my mind. It's a ridiculous pattern."

All remaining scheduled St. Louis games this year will be broadcast on CBS.

\*\*\*

### •VINTAGE VANTAGE:

Get out the corkscrews. Recently-signed Jim Everett could play quarterback for the Rams soon.

Former Viking Steve Dils is starting in place of injured Ram regular Steve Bartkowski, who hurt his knee at Philadelphia in Week Four. Ram coach John Robinson will use Everett if Dils gets hurt or, he says, if the Rams are comfortably ahead. The Rams activated Everett Oct. 1.

Before the Philadelphia game Robinson said, "We will open no wine before it's time," when asked when Everett would play. The Bartkowski injury has changed his tune.

"I thought I was being funny when I said we would open no wine before it's time," Robinson said a week later. "But I should have told you to put in parentheses, 'Unless you are really thirsty. Then you get the corkscrew out and get to it.' I just hope he knows everybody in the huddle."

Dils didn't throw a pass in a regular season game last year and threw only seven since coming to the Rams before the 1984 season. But he did throw three second-half touchdown passes against Philadelphia after Bartkowski's injury.

\*\*\*

### •BOOLA SHULA:

Many of the Miami Dolphins are low enough to play handball off the curb since losing four of their first five games.

"At this point I don't even feel like playing the game anymore," said running back Woody Bennett. "It's so frustrating when some guys are out there busting their buns and other guys are going through the freaking motions."

Said Dolphin coach Don Shula: "We deserve anything that is written or said about us. So go ahead and write it or say it."



Mike Singletary comes head-to-head with Houston's Mike Rozier in Sunday's game at the Astrodome. The Bear defense held the Heisman Trophy winner to under 100 yards rushing. (Bear Report photo by Lou Witt)

\*\*\*

### •WATERLOO?:

Raider running back Marcus Allen did not play against the Chiefs in Week Five. Navy rookie Napoleon McCallum started in his place.

If Allen's career record on artificial turf means anything, maybe the victorious Raiders didn't miss him. Of the 24 100-yard rushing games he has amassed, only one has come on artificial turf. In his 16 games on turf, opponents had held Allen to 60 yards or less in half of them.

Allen led the NFL in rushing last year. But Raider tight end Todd Christensen won't shed any tears over Allen's absence.

"In 1983, the year we won the Super Bowl, it seemed like we were more balanced," Christensen said. "Everybody did a little bit. What ends up happening when you have a great back like Marcus is you depend on him to come up with the plays. Whether or not you want to admit it, subconsciously a lot of times you get a little lazy."

\*\*\*

### •GIMME A BREAK:

Through five games, Buddy Ryan's Eagles still haven't played a team that had suffered a loss before playing them. The combined record of their first five opponents (Redskins, Bears, Broncos, Rams and Falcons) was 19-1. The only loss is the one they administered to the Rams last week.

By contrast, none of Minnesota's first four opponents had a win under its belt when it played the Vikings.

\*\*\*

### •THREE HORRORS STADIUM:

The Browns have finally won at Three Rivers Stadium after 16 straight unsuccessful tries.

"I don't think there's anything special about the place," said Browns coach Marty Schottenheimer. "There's just been a very good football team using it as its home."

\*\*\*

### •HOLD EVERYTHING:

When Atlanta running back Gerald Riggs lost a fumble in the first period against Tampa Bay recently it was the first time that had happened to him in 552 carries.

That's believed to be an NFL record, although official individual statistics of that nature are not kept.

\*\*\*

### •MILLER HEAVY:

Starting Ram defensive end Shawn Miller is a dirtbag and proud of it. Asked to complete the sentence "Most likely to..." in his high school yearbook, Miller responded, "End up in prison."

"I was the kid always in and out of detention hall," Miller said. "Most people never thought I'd amount to anything."

\*\*\*

•NOTES AND QUOTES: The Falcons have offered to renegotiate the contract of quarterback David Archer. Archer is currently making \$137,000, less than half the \$350,000 the Falcons are paying his backup, Turk

Schonert... AT&T made more than \$80,000 recently thanks to CBS-TV's instant replay poll in which viewers paid the phone company 50 cents to express their opinions to CBS on the instant replay. The total number of callers was 174,927... The hapless Cardinals have only 20 players on their active roster who were on the team at the end of their 9-7 1984 season... Houston's offensive line, comprised of four former No. 1 draft picks, has given up a bunch of sacks.

## Vikings

Continued From Page 8

Joey Browner (42 total tackles, 2 interceptions), linebacker David Howard (36 tackles, 2 sacks), Millard (29 tackles, 3 sacks) and left end Doug Martin (team-leading 4 sacks).

Special teams have been very adequate for the Vikings this year. Punter Greg Coleman ranks third in the league with a 44.7 average. Nelson has connected on seven of eight field-goal attempts. Buster Rhymes is third in the NFC with a 23.7 kickoff return average, while Rufus Bess ranks seventh with an 8.0 yard punt return average.

There's no doubt the only way the Vikings have a chance to upset the Bears next Sunday is to provide Kramer with plenty of time to throw.

"Hopefully we learned something in the first game that will help us next time," concludes Viking center Dennis Swilley.

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Sun., Nov. 23 ..... GREEN BAY PACKERS, Noon

Sun., Nov. 30 ..... PITTSBURGH STEELERS, Noon

Sun., Dec. 7 ..... TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS, Noon

Mon., Dec. 15 ..... at Detroit Lions, 8 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 21 ..... at Dallas Cowboys, 3 p.m.



# Champions

Continued From Page 3

Houston got a first down out of the penalty and sustained the drive a little longer before being forced to punt. Chicago's offense was left with just 48 seconds on the clock and couldn't do anything with it.

Chicago's bend-but-don't-break defense did just that at the end of the first quarter. Houston moved the ball to the Bears' 35-yard line when Dave Duerson came up with the big play and sacked Moon back to the 50-yard line.

That play put the Oilers just out of the range of kicker Tony Zendejas, who missed a 53-yard field goal attempt at the start of the second quarter.

## Payton goes over 20,000 yards

One good note to come out of the game, besides the win, is that Payton eclipsed the 20,000-yard mark in total offense for his career. Payton's 30-yard pass reception in the fourth quarter put him over the mark.

"They were running the Bear defense trying to stop our run," Payton said. "They were flowing and selling out trying to stop the run. We just took advantage of it and started passing around it."

Not much else went right as far as Ditka was concerned. "I think we can play better. That's all I'm saying," Ditka said.

"I can see why he said that," Singletary said. "We played well in spots. I think we played well when we had to. I just think sometimes that happens. That's football. We don't feel like we beat the Houston Oilers and we did

a great job. That's not the truth.

"Execution would be the bottom line and get back to consistency. When you want to be what we want to be all the time, and that's the best, you can't have weeks like this."

And you can be sure that Ditka will tell the rest of the players that same thing.

**GAME NOTES:** Houston was the Bears' third AFC Central opponent they've met in six games. . . . The Bears and Oilers have met just four times in regular season play. The series is tied at 2-2. The teams have met eight times in the preseason with each team winning four games. . . . The streaks continue. Chicago has now won 23 of its last 24 games and is 40-9 in its last 49 games. Quarterback Jim McMahon has led the

Bears to victory in his last 21 starts and has won 30 of his last 34 starts. At home the Bears have won their last 13 games and 22 of their last 24 games. Chicago also has won six straight games in domed stadiums. . . . In the four games before the Houston game, the Bears have allowed just 29 points. The defense has held four of the first five opponents to under 100 yards rushing. Philadelphia gained 101 yards against the Bears' defense. . . . Six Bears played collegiate ball in Texas. They are Maury Buford (Texas Tech), Thomas Sanders (Texas A & M), Dennis Gentry (Baylor), Mike Singletary (Baylor), Reggie Phillips (SMU) and Steve McMichael (Texas). Singletary played high school ball at Houston's Worthing High School, and Phillips played at Yates High School. . . . After going 0-4 against AFC Central teams in 1980, Chicago has turned it around against the division and is now 3-0 against the AFC Central this year.

# Butler

Continued From Page 12

"I'm one point behind where I was last year," he said. "I've had plenty of chances to make field goals and hope I keep making them because each point helps somebody else."

Since the second game of the year against Philadelphia, in which he missed four field goals, Butler has been kicking the ball as well as he ever has. He's kicked a 52-yard field goal, the longest of his career, and his kickoffs recently have been consistently in the end zone.

"I wasn't off that much earlier," Butler said. "My kicking is down now, so I hope I can keep the consistency and don't have any more Philadelphia games."

Butler also learned from last year not to wear himself out early. "I'm pacing myself this year compared to last year, where I was kicking like crazy every day," he said. "It's working out now for the better."

For information on making a pledge to Butler's campaign, contact one of the local heart association offices in Cook, DuPage or Lake county or call Pat at (312) 346-4675. All pledges will support research, education and community programs throughout the tri-county area.



Dennis Gentry broke this 21-yard run for a touchdown in the second quarter against Houston Sunday. The score gave Chicago the lead for good at 7-0. (Bear Report photo by Lou Witt)

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# Bear Report Letters

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**BEAR REPORT welcomes all Letters to the Editor. Due to space limitations, it may be necessary to shorten letters to fill the space available. BEAR REPORT does not necessarily agree with the views stated in the letters we receive. Unsigned letters will not be printed.**

## One More Letter On St. Louis

Dear Doug,

After hearing so much about the St. Louis game, I had to write and put my two cents in to the cause. All these so-called Bear fans are absolutely wrong in siding with the enemy Cards. Violence in sports is never right, but might I remind all you Card defenders that before the Fridge knocked Neil Lomax to death, a lone Bear player was being kicked continuously by a Card player. Do you think the Cards were worried about ending his career? I doubt it! I think the Bears were right in what they did. A final word to all those men out there — Football is no longer exclusively yours, us football widows (although I was never one of them) have taken over the game of football now. Thanks to Tim Wrightman it's proven that more women are very interested in football and are staying that way!

Lizzy Walsh  
Frankfort, IL

## Fridge Should Retaliate

Dear Doug,

I'm angry and upset to see opponents going for the Fridge's knees. Is the Fridge going to be another Dick Butkus?

I've thought about what I would do if I were in the Fridge's shoes, and being an intelligent Christian who realizes the importance of having good knees, there is only one answer. And that is to make an example of the next person that tries it by breaking both their arms and legs. The Fridge should send the message throughout the NFL that to go for his knees, one will have to pay the price. Maybe Dick Butkus could give the Fridge some advice.

Jim McDowell  
Sioux Falls, SD

## A Thank You To Ditka

Dear Editor,

My friend and I would like to thank coach Mike Ditka and many of the Bears who were so kind to give us their autographs and let us take pictures of them in Green Bay. It was a neat experience for us to see so many Bears up close — besides getting to miss two days of school to get to go to the game!

Sarra Fornetti, Norway, MI  
Tim Larson, Iron Mountain, MI

## Give Tobin Some Time

Dear Doug,

I'm writing concerning the letter that Nate Lehrman wrote in the Sept. 29 issue. Vince Tobin is one of the best defensive coaches the Bears ever had. It will take time to install the new defense. When Buddy Ryan was here the Bears didn't learn the 46 overnight. It took time and work and a lot of games to get it so where they were playing dominating defense. Look how they shut down Boomer Esiason and the Bengals. What more do you want?

The Bears have so much talent on defense that they could play any type of defense and dominate opposing teams with it. The Bears must keep Jim McMahon healthy and he will lead this team to the playoffs. I think Mike Ditka should play Neal Anderson more often. I wish Ditka the best of luck this season. Let's bring the city of Chicago another Super Bowl Champion.

Doug Wegrzynek  
Butler, PA

## Idea For Exhibition Games

Dear Editor,

I have an idea for special exhibition games.

Have two teams play the first half, two teams play the second half.

Example: Chicago area, special exhibition. First half Chicago Bears vs. Minnesota Vikings, second half Indianapolis Colts vs. Green Bay Packers.

At New York or New Jersey. First half New York Jets vs. Philadelphia Eagles, second half New York Giants vs. New England Patriots.

The fans would probably attend these games.

John Lissona  
Oceanside, CA

## Needs Information On Books

Dear Editor:

My father has a subscription to your paper and loves it. But here is our problem. We live in Scottsdale, Arizona and we can't get Gary Fencik's book, "Victory," or Walter Payton's book either. We were wondering if you could tell us an address of a place where we could order them.

Sincerely,  
Carey Millsap  
Scottsdale, AZ

*Editor's note: For Walter Payton's book try writing to Contemporary Books, Inc., 180 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60601. Unfortunately, we don't have any information on Gary Fencik's book.*

## Bear Fight Song Words Printed

Dear Doug,

It's finally great to be a Bear fan. Could you please print the words to the Bear fight song so we can spread joy to all the people around the world? I know a few lines but have just got to know the entire song for our Sunday sing-alongs.

Sincerely,  
Barrett Zebos  
Hendersonville, NC

*Editor's note: Here they are, and I hope your sing-alongs go well. "Bear down, Chicago Bears, Make every play clear the way to victory; Bear down, Chicago Bears, Put up a fight with a might so fearlessly. We'll never forget the way you thrilled the nation with your T-formation. Bear down, Chicago Bears, and let them know why you're wearing the crown. You're the pride and joy of Illinois, Chicago Bears, Bear down."*

## Who Were Last Year's Leading Rushers

Dear Doug,

I would like to know the 10 leading rushers in the NFL for 1985 and the yards gained by each player.

I have been reading Bear Report for years when I lived in Chicago and now receive it through U.S. mail in Minneapolis.

Hope your publication keeps up the good reports.

Sincerely,  
Robert Wolfe  
Minneapolis, MN

*Editor's note: The top 10 rushers last year were: 1, Marcus Allen, 1,759; 2, Gerald Riggs, 1,719; 3, Walter Payton, 1,551; 4, Joe Morris, 1,336; 5, Freeman McNeil, 1,331; 6, Tony Dorsett, 1,307; 7, James Wilder, 1,300; 8, Eric Dickerson, 1,234; 9, Craig James, 1,227; 10, Kevin Mack, 1,104.*

## Marshall Deserves Credit He's Given

Dear Doug,

I would like to comment on Don Pierson's article on Wilbur Marshall in the Sept. 15, 1986 issue of Bear Report.

If I had to pick my favorite player on defense it would be Wilbur Marshall. It was a pleasure to read Don's article. It doesn't take a Rhodes Scholar to see what an asset he is to the defense. I like everyone on the Bears and I also like to see credit when it is deserved. Thank you, Don Pierson.

Sincerely,  
Ricky Flatt  
Alexis, IL.

P.S. Would it be a problem to get color pictures inside the Bear Report, like the one on the cover without a large expense? I think it would be a great improvement.

*Editor's note: Unfortunately, it isn't possible to run color pictures inside the paper. Our color pictures on the front need to be given to the printer a few days in advance for them to work on. So we don't have enough time to be able to run color pictures from each Sunday's games in that issue.*

## Bears Proving Doubters Wrong

Dear Doug,

Ever since the start of the 1986 season, I have had a very uneasy feeling about the way the Bears have played. Few people seem to take into consideration Jim McMahon was injured in the first game. You take Dan Marino away from Miami, Dan Fouts away from San Diego you've got a very average team. All you critics out there must surely see, Jim McMahon gets the whole team motivated in a very positive way, as long as he's on the field.

What I'm trying to say is simply this. With a 4-0 start, I feel we are ready to prove the doubters wrong. It takes a lot of hard work, injuries to wide receivers Dennis McKinnon and Ken Margerum have restricted the Bears' offensive fire power.

I will never be in any sense of the word a Rams fan, but living on the west coast I get to see Henry Ellard play a lot. This year, though, Henry hasn't played a down in the regular season. Talent like Henry Ellard should not be wasted. He may miss the 1986 season as Harris and Bell did in 1985. The October 14th trading deadline is growing closer. Please consider the possibility of Ellard in a Bears' uniform. He is a true superstar in every sense of the word. Why not let him enjoy the success of the Bears the Rams cannot provide.

Randy Walker  
Fresno, CA

## Defense As Good As Last Year

Dear Editor,

There are a few points that I would like to make about this year's Bear team.

The first point is that the Bear defense is not better or worse than last year's defense. It is still a sound defense, but rather than a risky defense like the 46 was, it is a bend but don't break defense. They will give up more yards, but they won't give up the big play as often. It all depends on the personal and not the defensive coach.

My second point is that Wilbur Marshall and Otis Wilson are two of the most underrated Bear players. The Bears have perhaps one of the best, if not the best, linebacking corps in the league. However, it seems that Mike Singletary is the most mentioned linebacker of the three. While Singletary certainly deserves all this and more, the Bears were the smart ones when they picked Marshall in the draft after 10 teams ahead of them were too tight with their money to pick him. And what can you say about Wilson? The man can do it all. He is quick, hits hard and talks a good game. But, as long as he can back it up, more power to him.

Finally, I just wanted to say that I think the Bears have the best running backs in the league. Besides Payton and Suhey, Neal Anderson, Calvin Thomas, sometimes Dennis Gentry and especially Thomas Sanders could start for any other team in the league. Sanders' game against Cincinnati was simply awesome.

Keep up the good work and we'll see you in Pasadena in January!

Paul Anthony Arco  
Rockford, IL

## NFL Standings

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Central Division					
	W	L	T	TP	OP
Chicago	6	0	0	166	67
Minnesota	4	2	0	133	84
Detroit	3	3	0	106	116
Tampa Bay	1	5	0	100	153
Green Bay	0	6	0	74	177
Eastern Division					
N.Y. Giants	5	1	0	130	73
Washington	5	1	0	120	97
Dallas	4	2	0	172	114
Philadelphia	2	4	0	84	142
St. Louis	1	5	0	76	129
Western Division					
Atlanta	5	1	0	150	108
L.A. Rams	4	2	0	116	110
San Francisco	4	2	0	160	97
New Orleans	2	4	0	91	115

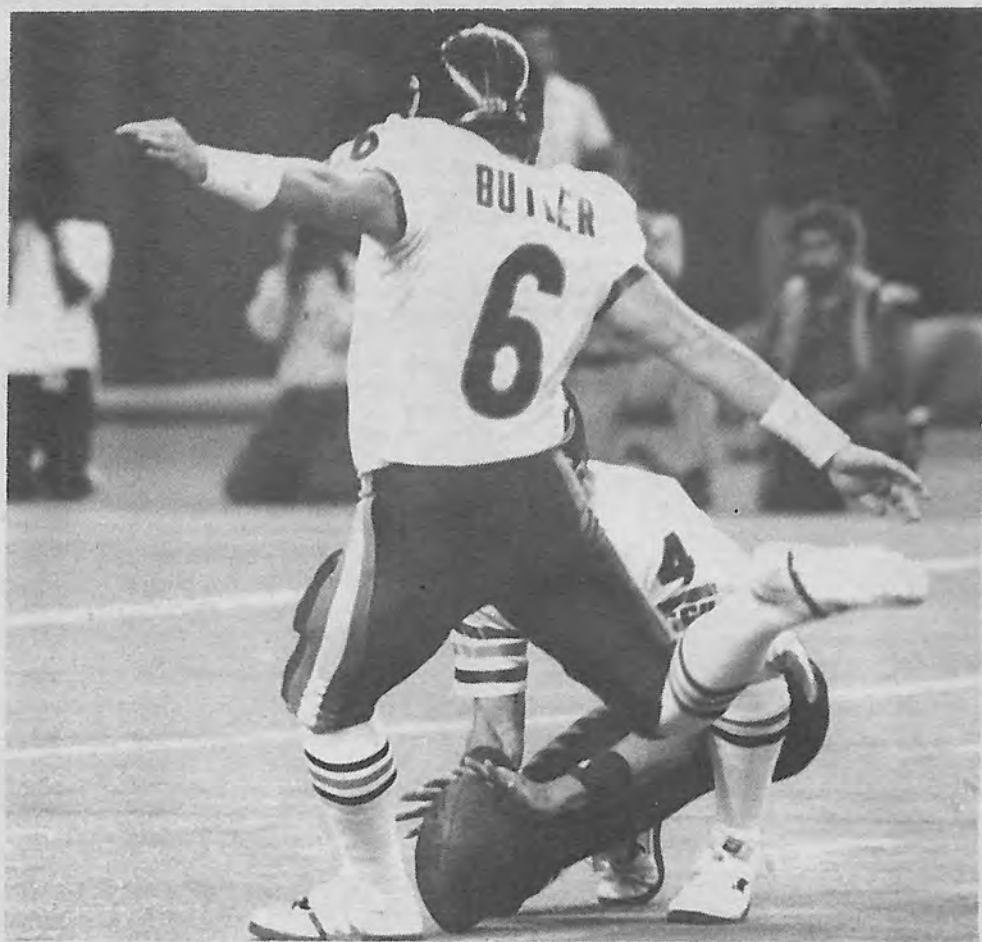
### AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Eastern Division					
	W	L	T	TP	OP
N.Y. Jets	5	1	0	156	133
New England	3	3	0	162	112
Miami	2	4	0	153	190
Buffalo	1	5	0	118	135
Indianapolis	0	6	0	55	165
Central Division					
Cleveland	4	2	0	138	143
Cincinnati	3	2	0	121	142
Pittsburgh	1	4	0	63	125
Houston	1	5	0	100	119
Western Division					
Denver	6	0	0	179	101
Seattle	4	2	0	148	88
Kansas City	3	3	0	112	111
L.A. Raiders	3	3	0	106	102
San Diego	1	5	0	118	159

### Sunday's Results

Detroit 21, Green Bay 14  
Chicago 20, Houston 7  
Miami 27, Buffalo 14  
Cleveland 20, Kansas City 7  
Atlanta 26, L.A. Rams 14  
New Orleans 17, Indianapolis 14  
New York Jets 31, New England 24  
St. Louis 30, Tampa Bay 19  
Dallas 30, Washington 6  
L.A. Raiders 14, Seattle 10  
N.Y. Giants 33, Philadelphia 3  
Minnesota 27, S. Francisco 24, OT  
Denver 31, San Diego 14





Kevin Butler connected on this field goal Sunday to mark the 13th straight game in which he's kicked a field goal for the Bears, a new club record. (Bear Report photo by Lou Witt)



Jim McMahon did a lot of scrambling to escape a sometimes odd Houston rush during the Bears' 20-7 win Sunday at the Astrodome. (Bear Report photo by Lou Witt)

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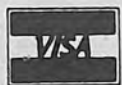
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